

EXETER PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
PORT MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR

1960

EXETER PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

1.

PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION - 1960.

Town Hall,
Exmouth.

January 1961.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have great pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 1960 - from which it will be seen that no case of infectious disease was notified amongst the passengers and crew of any ships entering the port.

The standard of hygiene of the ships has been on the whole satisfactory and once again it has not been necessary to take any action in regard to sanitary defects.

Whilst the total Net Registered Tonnage entering the port has fallen slightly from 49,647 in 1959 to 48,950 in 1960, it will be noted that the tonnage entering Exeter basin, both foreign and coastwise increased slightly and that entering Exmouth decreased in respect of both foreign and coastwise shipping.

New Legislation which has been made during the year and which applies to Port Health work includes:-

- (1) The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, which consolidated and amended the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955-1957 and extended the regulations to food businesses carried on from home-going ships and moored vessels. It has to be noted that the regulations relating to these ships does not come into operation until 1st November 1961 in order to give time for the carrying out of any structural alterations to the ships. In relation to any ship it is the duty of the Port Health Authority to enforce and execute the provisions of the regulations in their district.

- (2) The Food Hygiene (Docks, Carriers, etc.) Regulations 1960

These regulations prescribe requirements to secure the hygienic handling of food at Docks, Warehouses etc. Most of these regulations came into force on the 1st November 1960 but those regulations which deal with structural alterations to premises are deferred until 1st May 1961. The Port Health Authority shall enforce and execute the provisions of these regulations in their district.

During the year two outstanding events gave great interest to all concerned, viz; the annual inspection of the Port Health District by members of the Authority, the staff and the press, which took place on the 13th October 1960. Secondly, the Annual Meeting of the Association of Air and Sea Port Health Authorities of the British Isles which was held at Southampton and was attended by Cmdr. J. Newton and the Port Medical Officer.

Finally, I should like to thank the Chairman and all Members of the Authority for their help and support; the staff for the conscientious manner in which they have carried out their duties and the Press for the great interest which they have always shown in the work of the Authority.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

L.G. ANDERSON,

Port Medical Officer.


SECTION III - CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND
TRADE DURING THE YEAR

PASSENGER TRAFFIC	Number of Passengers INWARD	Nil
	Number of Passengers OUTWARD	Nil
CARGO TRAFFIC	Principal IMPORTS	1. Petrol 4. Fertiliser 2. Coal 5. Wood Pulp 3. Timber 6. Beer
	Principal EXPORTS	Nil
PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive.	FOREIGN	Copenhagen Rotterdam Fredericksund Hamina Halmstad Dunkirk Kotka Vaarlingen Kemi
	COASTWISE	London Blyth Southampton Goole Keadby Aberdeen Arbroath

SECTION 11 - AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE
DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR

TABLE B

SHIPS FROM	NUMBER	TONNAGE (Net Registered)	NUMBER INSPECTED		NUMBER OF SHIPS RETURNED AS HAVING HAD, DURING THE VOYAGE INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON BOARD
			BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	
Foreign Ports	80	11,719	14	72	-
Coastwise	311	37,231	-	258	-
Total	391	48,950	14	330	-



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SECTION 1 - STAFF

TABLE A

NAME OF OFFICER	NATURE OF APPOINTMENT	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	QUALIFICATIONS	ALL OTHER APPOINTMENTS
Dr. L. G. Anderson	Port Medical Officer	1.8.1948	M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H	Medical Officer of: Exmouth U.D.C. Budleigh Salterton U.D.C. St. Thomas R.D.C. Asst. County Medical Officer Devon County Council.
Dr D.L.H.Moore	Deputy Port Medical Officer	1.4.1941	B.A., M.B., Ch.B., B.A.C.	General Medical Practitioner.
Mr. F.G. Davies	Port Health Inspector (Exeter Basin)	1.4.1943	F.R.S.H., A.M.I.P.H.E., F.A.P.H.I. (Meat & Other Foods Cert.)	Senior Public Health Inspector, Exeter City Council.
Mr. D.R.Redgwell	Port Health Inspector (Exmouth Harbour)	22.1.1951	M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., (Meat & Other Foods Cert). (Smoke Inspectors Certificate).	Senior Public Health Inspector Exmouth U.D.C.
Mr. K.C. Benham	Port Health Inspector (Topsam Quay).	1.4.1953	Cert. S.I.B., F.A.P.H.I.	Chief Public Health Inspector St. Thomas Rural District Council.

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL NETT REGISTERED TONNAGE
OF SHIPS ENTERING THE PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY
DISTRICT FROM 1926 - 1960

Year	FOREIGN				COASTWISE				Total Foreign Coastwise
	Exeter	Exmouth	Topsham	Total Foreign	Exeter	Exmouth	Topsham	Total Coastwise	
1926	3,683	9,599	2,515	15,797	6,409	3,924	1,461	11,794	27,591
1927	5,754	11,633	2,974	20,361	5,669	3,366	3,045	12,080	32,441
1928	5,175	7,961	2,935	16,071	6,236	5,307	2,924	14,467	30,538
1929	4,347	6,923	1,397	12,667	7,008	6,867	3,925	17,800	30,467
1930	4,509	5,567	2,938	13,014	6,049	6,972	5,218	18,239	31,253
1931	4,485	11,189	1,408	17,082	6,174	7,931	4,696	18,801	35,883
1932	4,511	14,002	400	18,913	6,695	7,539	5,993	20,227	39,140
1933	3,561	11,044	704	15,264	11,575	16,148	7,089	34,812	50,076
1934	5,459	10,613	537	16,609	16,908	17,233	7,975	41,936	58,545
1935	4,507	9,423	494	14,424	19,944	17,809	7,497	47,250	61,674
1936	4,836	10,208	387	15,431	19,961	22,406	9,783	52,150	67,581
1937	3,967	8,150	390	12,507	18,912	24,763	8,226	51,901	64,408
1938	5,131	10,075	-	15,206	20,021	25,886	8,323	54,230	69,436
1939	5,246	7,220	-	12,466	20,975	21,474	5,424	47,873	60,340
1940	-	577	-	577	6,930	8,412	2,014	17,356	17,933
1941	-	-	-	-	188	5,871	-	6,059	6,059
1942	-	-	-	-	582	3,175	-	3,757	3,757
1943	-	-	-	-	1,435	7,594	-	9,029	9,029
1944	-	-	-	-	1,035	5,088	-	6,123	6,123
1945	-	333	-	333	1,223	6,870	-	8,093	8,426
1946	95	740	-	835	6,491	9,882	45	16,418	17,253
1947	279	979	-	1,258	6,439	21,016	-	27,455	28,713
1948	911	3,035	-	3,946	13,520	18,108	-	31,628	35,574
1949	687	3,651	-	4,338	16,872	15,523	-	32,395	36,733
1950	1,434	1,014	-	2,448	17,192	17,231	-	34,423	36,871
1951	2,399	819	-	3,218	16,900	19,167	-	36,067	39,285
1952	1,491	1,850	-	3,341	18,841	20,348	-	39,189	42,630
1953	2,206	2,780	118	5,104	22,006	22,170	186	44,362	49,466
1954	1,376	5,629	-	7,005	25,795	21,737	190	47,722	54,727
1955	2,630	9,293	178	12,101	26,013	24,563	-	50,576	62,677
1956	2,395	5,179	97	7,671	25,802	21,302	-	47,104	54,775
1957	2,881	5,082	-	7,963	20,406	22,285	-	42,691	50,654
1958	2,201	7,780	958	10,939	22,137	19,445	-	41,602	52,541
1959	2,843	7,478	1,665	11,986	21,120	16,541	-	37,661	49,647
1960	3,217	6,948	1,554	11,719	22,848	14,120	263	37,231	48,950

SECTION IV - INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There are no barges which use this district.

SECTION V - WATER SUPPLY

- (1) Sources of Supply for (a) the district and (b) shipping.
The water supplies serving the sanitary districts are used for the shipping at their respective wharfs viz:

- (a) Exmouth Harbour Exmouth Urban District Public supply.
- (b) Exeter Basin Exeter City Council Public supply.
- (c) Topsham St. Thomas R.D.C. Public supply to Topsham parish.

- (2) Reports of tests for contamination.

Routine regular tests are carried out by the responsible authorities viz: Exmouth U.D.C., St. Thomas R.D.C., and Exeter City Council. All these supplies are chlorinated and the bacteriological results were satisfactory.

- (3) Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes

The hydrants and hosepipes are regularly inspected by the Port Health Inspector. The hosepipes are stored under cover when not in use and are well flushed out prior to use.

- (4) Number and sanitary condition of water boats

There are no water boats operating at this port.

SECTION VI - PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS 1952

- (1) List of Infected areas

A copy of the list of infected areas supplied by the World Health Organisation, is prepared weekly at the office of the Port Medical Officer, Town Hall, Exmouth and is forwarded by post to the following persons:-

- (1) Mr. S. Connor, Custom's Officer, Exmouth.
- (2) Mr. F.G. Davies, Port Health Inspector, Exeter Basin.
- (3) Mr. D.R. Redgwell, Port Health Inspector, Exmouth Harbour.
- (4) Executive Officer, Exeter Airport, Honiton Clyst.
- (5) Mr. R.C. Benham, Port Health Inspector, Topsham Wharf.

- (2) Radio Messages

- (a) Arrangements for sending permission, by radio, for ships to enter the district.

Arrangements have been made with the Post Office for sending Wireless Messages if required. None were sent during 1960.

- (b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon.

Arrangements have been made with the Post Office for receiving Wireless Messages if required. None were received during 1960.

(3) Notifications otherwise than by radio

Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.

Arrangements have been made with the Post Office for the transmission of telegrams to the Port Medical Officer - none were received during the year.

A constant watch is maintained at H.M. Coastguard Station Exmouth from which signals by morse or flag may be sent or received as and when necessary and transmitted to Medical Officer of Health or the Police.

(4) Mooring Stations(a) Ships proceeding up the canal to Exeter Basin

There are two buoys situated in that portion of the estuary of the River Exe known as the Bight to which all ships arriving from foreign ports make fast before boarding by H.M. Customs Officers.

(b) Ships whose destination is Exmouth harbour may make fast either to the buoys, as above, or to the pier head, Exmouth.

Where action is to be taken under regulations 22 - 30 (Regulations dealing with the control of Infectious Diseases), the ships will be made fast to one of the buoys situated in the Bight, as above.

(5) Arrangements for:(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox)

Patients suffering from infectious diseases will be transferred by ambulance to the Infectious Disease hospital of the Regional Hospital Board at Whipton, Exeter (Tel. No. Exeter 67158)

(b) Surveillance and follow-up of contacts

Surveillance and follow-up of contacts will be undertaken by the Port Medical Officer whilst the ship is within this district. Where the ship has to proceed to another port before the expiration of the period of surveillance, the contacts will be given letters to take to the Port Medical Officer of the next port of call informing him of the circumstances.

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, person and clothing and other articles

Disinfection of ships will, when necessary, be undertaken by the Port Health Inspector, the formaldehyde method being used. Disinfection of clothing or bedding may be carried out at the steam disinfectant station of the Exmouth Urban District Council or Exeter City Council.

Cleansing of verminous persons will be carried out by the Port Health Inspector on the ship itself and his clothing, bedding etc., removed to the steam disinfectant station at Exmouth or Exeter, as appropriate, for steam disinfection.

SECTION VII - SMALLPOX

- (1) The Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases will be sent from the district is "The Upton Pyne Smallpox Hospital" (5 miles from Exeter) Tel.No. Stoke Canon 207. The admission will be made through the Medical Officer of the Shipton Isolation Hospital (Tel.No.Exeter 67158). The vaccination state of the Hospital staff is up to date.
- (2) The transport of cases of smallpox will be undertaken by a special infection disease ambulance by arrangement with the Exeter City Ambulance Officer (Tel.No.Exeter 55435)
- (3) Consultant:

The following consultants are available as and when necessary:-

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1. <u>East Devon:</u> | Dr.E.T.G. Wallace,
Health Centre,
Westham Road,
PLYMOUTH, Dorset. | <u>Tel.No.</u>
1.45 and 16
Home: 1513 Weymouth |
| 2. <u>Cornwall & Devon to the River Exe</u> | Dr. D.F. Joinstone,
Isolation Hospital,
PLYMOUTH. | Home: 04311 & 61437
3358 Plymouth |
| 3. <u>Devon & Cornwall</u> | Dr.W.A. Lister,
7, The Crescent,
PLYMOUTH. | Home: 5701 Plymouth
40 Devonport |

(4) Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of Smallpox

Specimens for laboratory diagnosis will be sent to:

Virus Reference Laboratory
Central Public Health Laboratory,
Colindale Avenue,
LONDON, N.W.9

SECTION VIII - VENEREAL DISEASE

Masters of vessels are informed of the following arrangements for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements:

Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital:

Mondays: 19.00 hrs. to 20.00 hrs.
Fridays: 14.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs.

SECTION IX - CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF SHIPS.

There have been no cases of infectious diseases aboard ships entering the port during 1960.

SECTION X - OBSERVATIONS OF THE
OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

No cases of malaria were notified.

SECTION XI - MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS
INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED OF PLAGUE

No measures were necessary under this section.

SECTION XII - MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS
IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

- (1) Procedure for inspection of ships for rats - Enquiries are made from masters of all vessels using the port concerned regarding the presence of rats, and if present, of signs of unusual mortality among the rats.

No evidence of rats was found on any ships entering the port during the year.

- (2) The bacteriological examination of rodents with special reference to rodent plague are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Exeter.

There were no cases of rodent infestation discovered during the year.

- (3) Deratting of ships

The Exeter Port Health Authority is not a recognised authority for this purpose. A ship requiring deratization would be referred to the Port of Plymouth.

- (4) Progress of rat-proofing of ships

The general construction of the ships and nature of the cargo of the ships using this port are not conducive to rat breeding and other than efforts to maintain a high standard of cleanliness, no action appears necessary.

Rodents destroyed during the year
in ships from Foreign Ports

Nil.

DERATTING CERTIFICATE AND DERATTING EXEMPTION
CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR FOR SHIPS
FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

In accordance with the Prevention of Damage by Pests Application to Shipping Order, 1951 - 1956, 4 Rodent Control Certificates were issued under the provisions of this Order. A charge of ten shillings was made in each case, as authorised by the Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping), (Amendment No.2) Order, 1956. This money was paid, as received to the Clerk of the Authority.

SECTION XIII - INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR
NUISANCES

Inspection and Notices

Nature and Number of Inspections	Notices served		Result of serving Notices
	Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Routine	330	-	-
TOTAL:	330	-	-

SECTION XIV - PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH,
REGULATIONS 1934 AND 1938

The Mussel Purification Works at Lympstone has not been in operation during the year under review.

The Exe Shellfish Company, Exmouth, employ the method of sterilization by boiling under pressure and this has proved very satisfactory during the year, and of the 11 samples of Shellfish which were sent for bacteriological examination during the year, all were found to be satisfactory.

Nature of Specimen	Number of Samples	Result, according to the Fishmongers' Company Standards
Mussels	5	SATISFACTORY
Cockles	6	SATISFACTORY

A shop commenced the boiling and selling of Winkles during the Summer months and close supervision is kept that they are properly sterilized. 4 samples have been taken and all found to be satisfactory.

SECTION XV - MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

This port is not approved for the landing of aliens.

SECTION XVI - DISTILLATEOUS

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on
board ship from infectious disease

Such persons would be conveyed by the infectious disease ambulance to the mortuary at Whipton Isolation Hospital to await burial.

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